

## REMARKS

Claim 1 was rejected in the above-identified Office Action on formal grounds under 35 U.S.C., 112, and all of the pending claims were rejected as being anticipated or obvious in view of the cited Funakoshi reference.

Particularly, with respect to the form of Claim 1, the Office Action, at paragraph 3, questioned the disclosure in the Specification which supports the phrase “said slice check wire . . . being disposed on a first wire layer among a plurality of wire layers on said substrate.” By this Amendment Applicants have clarified that the “first wire layer, in the above-quoted phrase is, is the layer closest to the substrate. The description of this feature is set forth in the Specification at page 11, line 20, which refers to the slice check wire Sc, and at the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12, which describes the slice wire as being formed on the first layer or the substrate. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 has been overcome.

With regard to the rejection of the claims as being anticipated or obvious, Applicants stress that Funakoshi fails as a rejecting reference for two reasons: (1) Funakoshi does not specify the wire layer on which the slice wire is provided, as specifically stated in Claim 1, and (2) Funakoshi does not disclose connecting the slice check to a constant potential as required in Claims 3 and 4. In this respect the disposition of the slice check wire on the layer nearest to the substrate, provides for a high degree of accuracy for detecting the slice. Also, the constant potential applied to the slice wire alleviates problems which occur when a floating potential exists on wires outside the pixel. Applicants submit that Funakoshi does not disclose any recognition of this problem, and therefore fails to teach a solution. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that there is nothing in Funakoshi which would indicate that a “voltage drop” would exist, or that if it

did, that it would “interfere with inspection process”, as set forth in paragraph 7 of the Office Action.

For all of these various reasons Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are allowable and the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicants’ undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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